

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

§ 1b.16

disclosure is otherwise found appropriate in the public interest and permitted by law.

§ 1b.10 By whom conducted.

Formal Commission investigations are conducted by the Commission or by an individual(s) designated and authorized in the Order of Investigation. Investigating Officers are *officers* within the meaning of the statutes administered by the Commission and are authorized to perform the duties of their office in accordance with the laws of the United States and the regulations of the Commission. Investigating Officers shall have such duties as the Commission may specify in an Order of Investigation.

§ 1b.11 Limitation on participation.

There are no parties, as that term is used in adjudicative proceedings, in an investigation under this part and no person may intervene or participate as a matter of right in any investigation under this part. Section 2.72 of the rules is specifically not applicable to private investigations conducted by the Commission or its staff.

§ 1b.12 Transcripts.

Transcripts, if any, of investigative testimony shall be recorded solely by the official reporter, or by any other person or means designated by the investigating officer. A witness who has given testimony in an investigation shall be entitled, upon written request, to procure a transcript of the witness' own testimony on payment of the appropriate fees, except that in a non-public formal investigation, the office responsible for the investigation may for good cause deny such request. In any event, any witness or his counsel, upon proper identification, shall have the right to inspect the official transcript of the witness' own testimony. This provision supersedes §385.1904(b) of this chapter.

[43 FR 27174, June 23, 1978, as amended by Order 225, 47 FR 19054, May 3, 1982]

§ 1b.13 Powers of persons conducting formal investigations.

Any member of the Commission or the Investigating Officer, in connection with any formal investigation ordered

by the Commission, may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, contracts, agreements or other records relevant or material to the investigation.

§ 1b.14 Subpoenas.

(a) Service of a subpoena upon a person named therein shall be made by the investigating officer (1) by personal delivery, (2) by certified mail, (3) by leaving a copy thereof at the principal office or place of business of the person to be served, (4) or by delivery to any person designated as agent for service or the person's attorney.

(b) At the time for producing documents subpoenaed in an investigation, the subpoenaed party shall submit a statement stating that, if true, such person has made a diligent search for the subpoenaed documents and is producing all the documents called for by the subpoena. If any subpoenaed document(s) are not produced for any reason, the subpoenaed party shall state the reason therefor.

(c) If any subpoenaed documents in an investigation are withheld because of a claim of the attorney-client privilege, the subpoenaed party shall submit a list of such documents which shall, for each document, identify the attorney involved, the client involved, the date of the document, the person(s) shown on the document to have prepared and/or sent the document, and the person(s) shown on the document to have received copies of the document.

§ 1b.15 Non-compliance with compulsory processes.

In cases of failure to comply with Commission compulsory processes, appropriate action may be initiated by the Commission or the Attorney General, including but not limited to actions for enforcement or the imposition of penalties.

§ 1b.16 Rights of witnesses.

(a) Any person who is compelled or requested to furnish documentary evidence or testimony in a formal investigation shall, upon request, be shown

the Commission's Order of Investigation. Copies of Orders of Investigation shall not be furnished, for their retention, to such persons requesting the same except with the express approval of the director of the office responsible for the investigation. Such approval shall not be given unless the director of the office responsible for the investigation, in the director's discretion is satisfied that there exist reasons consistent with the protection of privacy of persons involved in the investigation and with the unimpeded conduct of the investigation.

(b) Any person compelled to appear, or who appears in person at a formal investigation by request or permission of the Investigating Officer may be accompanied, represented and advised by counsel, as provided by § 385.2101 of this chapter and these rules, except that all witnesses shall be sequestered and, unless permitted in the discretion of the Investigating Officer, no witness or the counsel accompanying any such witness shall be permitted to be present during the examination of any other witness called in such proceeding. When counsel does represent more than one person in an investigation, for example, where the counsel is counsel to the witness and his employer, said counsel shall inform the Investigating Officer and each client of said counsel's possible conflict of interest in representing that client and, if said counsel appears with a witness giving testimony on the record in an investigation, counsel shall state on the record all persons said counsel represents in the investigation.

(c) Any witness may be accompanied, represented, and advised by counsel as follows:

(1) Counsel for a witness may advise the witness, in confidence, upon his initiative or the witness' with respect to any question, and if the witness refuses to answer a question, then the witness or counsel may briefly state on the record the legal grounds for such refusal.

(2) Where it is claimed that the witness has a privilege to refuse to answer a question on the grounds of self-incrimination, the witness must assert the privilege personally.

(3) Following completion of the examination of a witness, such witness may make a statement on the record and his counsel may on the record question the witness to enable the witness to clarify any of the witness' answers or to offer other evidence.

(4) The Investigating Officer shall take all necessary action to regulate the course of the proceeding to avoid delay and prevent or restrain obstructionist or contumacious conduct or contemptuous language. Such officer may report to the Commission any instances where an attorney or representative has refused to comply with his directions, or has engaged in obstructionist or contumacious conduct or has used contemptuous language in the course of the proceeding. The Commission may thereupon take such further action as the circumstances may warrant, including suspension or disbarment of counsel from further appearance or practice before it, in accordance with § 385.2101 of this chapter, or exclusion from further participation in the particular investigation.

(d) Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, in any public formal investigation, if the record shall contain implications of wrongdoing by any person, such person shall have the right to appear on the record; and in addition to the rights afforded other witnesses hereby, he shall have a reasonable opportunity of cross-examination and production of rebuttal testimony or documentary evidence. *Reasonable* shall mean permitting persons as full an opportunity to assert their position as may be granted consistent with administrative efficiency and with avoidance of undue delay. The determinations of reasonableness in each instance shall be made in the discretion of the investigating officer.

[43 FR 27174, June 23, 1978, as amended by Order 225, 47 FR 19054, May 3, 1982]

§ 1b.17 Appearance and practice before the Commission.

The provisions of subpart U of part 385 of this chapters are specifically applicable to all investigations.

[43 FR 27174, June 23, 1978, as amended by Order 225, 47 FR 19054, May 3, 1982]